



## ***PRESS RELEASE***

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### **Commission Awards \$932,554 Grant to Lawrence Hall of Science, University of California, Berkeley and the San Leandro Unified School District to Improve Teaching and Learning**

January 2004 --- The University of California Lawrence Hall of Science will receive a three-year grant of \$932,554 in federal monies that have been earmarked for improving the quality of teaching. This specific project is designed to address the need for well-trained mathematics teachers who are able to achieve success in a diverse student population. The San Leandro Unified School District has an urban population of 8,500 students, with over 42 languages spoken. This project will directly influence 66 teachers and 1,675 K-12 students. Increasing teachers' mathematics competence and ability to teach for conceptual understanding is paramount in the project.

According to the proposal, one of the primary goals of the project is to identify equity issues affecting school math performance and experiences. Further, the project is expected to increase teachers' ability to adjust their curriculum as needed to create equitable learning experiences for students. Developing models and strategies for involving parents in the plan for increased math achievement is also a primary goal of the project.

The California Postsecondary Education Commission has been administering federal funds to improve teacher professional development since 1984. This year the Commission has made awards totaling over \$10 million in the *Improving Teacher Quality State Grants Program*.

The California Postsecondary Education Commission advises the Governor and Legislature on higher education policy and fiscal issues. Its primary focus is to ensure that the state's educational resources are used effectively to provide Californians with postsecondary education opportunities. More information about the Commission and its work can be found at its website at [www.cpec.ca.gov](http://www.cpec.ca.gov). Regarding this program, you may contact Karen Mayfield-Ingram, Lawrence Hall of Science, at 510-642-9082; Christine Lim, San Leandro Unified School District, at 510-667-3500.